

FORM PCT 1390
REV. 5/93

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
BEHRENS 9 PCT

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/980608

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/DE00/01386INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
28 APRIL 2000PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
21 JULY 1999

TITLE OF INVENTION

STRIPLIKE BODY OF VEGETATION FOR COVERING ROOFS WITH THIN LAYERS OF VEGETATION

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

WOLFGANG BEHRENS

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(I).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau)
 - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has **NOT** expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:

PCT/ISA/210 - Int'l. Search Report (English)
1 SHEET FORMAL DRAWINGS?Applicant Claims Priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 199 34 203.2 filed 21 July 1999.
Applicant Claims Priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of: PCT No. PCT/DE00/01386 filed 28 April 2000.

APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/980608

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/DE00/01386

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.

BEHRENS 9 PCT

☒ The following fees are submitted:

Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):

Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$890.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)
.....\$690.00Neither international preliminary examination fee paid (37 CFR 1.82) nor
international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO.....\$1,000.00International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)
and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4).....\$100.00

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =

\$ 890.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ____ 20 ____ 30
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	15 - 20 =	- 0 -	X \$18.00	\$	
Independent Claims	1- 3 =	- 0 -	X \$84.00	\$	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$20.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 890.00	
Reduction by 1/2 for Small Entity status.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 445.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ____ 20 ____ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 445.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +				See cover sheet attached to assign \$ to be charged to Deposit Acct	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 445.00	
				Amount to be: refunded	\$
				charged	\$

☒ Applicant claims Small Entity status.

- a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$445.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 03-2468 in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-2468. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

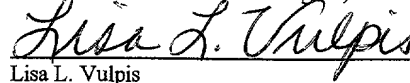
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
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Signature

Edward R. Freedman
Reg. No. 26,048

Express Mail No. EL 871 449298 US
Date of Deposit November 2, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Ass't. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Lisa L. Vulpis

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: BEHRENS 9 PCT
INT'L. APPLN. NO.: PCT/DE00/01386 FILED: 28 APRIL 2000
PRIORITY NO.: 199 34 203.2 FILED: 21 JULY 1999
FOR: STRIPLIKE BODY OF VEGETATION FOR COVERING ROOFS WITH
THIN LAYERS OF VEGETATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ATTN: BOX PCT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Above line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of GERMANY
Application No. 199 34 203.2 filed on 21 JULY 1999. Applicants
also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/DE00/01386 filed
on 28 APRIL 2000. The international application under PCT
article 21(2) was not published in English.--

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add an Abstract of the Disclosure on its own separate
page attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 3 - 15 and insert new claims 16 - 28 as follows:

16. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the body of vegetation (10) is provided with 50 to 1,500 holes per square metre, whereby the holes (18; 20) in each case feature a diameter of 2 to 20 mm.

17. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the number of holes (18; 20) is selected as a function of the roof height.

18. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a looped mat (16).

19. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a fibre mat, in particular a fibre mat made of coconut fibres.

20. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense needle non-woven.

21. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polyester non-woven.

22. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polypropylene non-woven.

23. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense cotton non-woven (30).

24. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a rock wool mat.

25. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that arranged between the structural matting (12) and the underlay (14) is reinforcing (28) to accommodate tensile forces.

26. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is arranged on the underlay (14) in such a way that a first side edge area of the structural matting (12) projects over a first side edge of the underlay (14), that a second side edge area (22) of the underlay (14) located opposite projects beneath a second side edge (24) of the structural matting (12), so that the structural matting (12) and underlay (14) of adjacent bodies of vegetation overlap into one another in each case, and that the overlapping areas are combined with one another in the cultivated state of the bodies of vegetation as a consequence of the inter-rooting activity of the plants (34).

27. A process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with Claim 1, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10) is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, in a third step the holes (18; 20) are applied by machine through the body of vegetation

(10) into the underlay (14), and in a fourth step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.

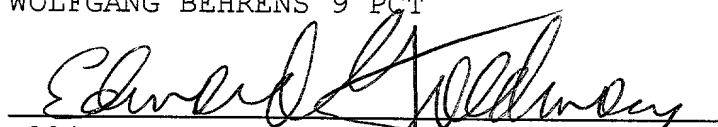
28. The process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with Claim 1, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10), of which the underlay (14) has already been provided with holes (18;20), is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, and in a third step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, an Abstract of the Disclosure on its own separate page has been added. In addition, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1. Claims 3 to 15 have been canceled, and new claims 16 to 28 have been added, in which the multiple dependency has been removed. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
WOLFGANG BEHRENS 9 PCT

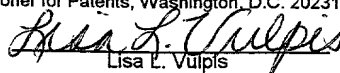
By:


Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532
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Date of Deposit November 2, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Ass't. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Lisa L. Vulpis

11/11/15

STRIPLIKE BODY OF VEGETATION USED TO COVER ROOFS WITH THIN
LAYERS OF VEGETATION

The invention relates to a striplike body of vegetation used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with the preamble of Patent Claim 1, and further relates to a process for the manufacture of such a body of vegetation.

The concept of striplike bodies of vegetation used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation, such as are known, for example, from DE 197 40 682 A1, is understood to mean mat-type vegetation carriers, which feature structural matting arranged on an underlay. Such bodies of vegetation are relatively thin and, by contrast with conventional substrate designs, combine several functions within them.

The structural matting serves to accommodate the substrate and roots of the plants, whereby the structural matting is intended to secure the hold of the substrate and the plants. The underlay, applied to the underside in the form of a feltlike non-woven material serves to store water. The usual layer thickness of such bodies of vegetation is about 1 to 5 cm. Advantageous with these bodies of vegetation for covering roofs with thin layers of vegetation is the fact that they are relatively light, as a result of which the roof loading is increased to only some 30 kg per square metre, while by contrast substrate structures incur an increased roof loading of more than 80 kg/m².

At the same time, however, the low weight of such bodies of vegetation is problematic, since such bodies of vegetation on roofs with a height of more than eight metres are subjected to critical wind suction, which leads to the mats being sucked up and raised by the wind suction forces. This leads to suction peaks due to the buoyancy of the bodies of vegetation, which impose a burden on the bodies of vegetation themselves, the foliation, and the roof

structure.

It has already been proposed in DE 197 40 682 A1 that the wind forces be countered by several striplike bodies of vegetation being laid overlapping, as a result of which the situation is achieved in which the roots of plants root through two overlapping bodies of vegetation and the bodies of vegetation are connected at the side edges. Such an arrangement results in a situation in which the wind can no longer flow beneath the bodies of vegetation. Nevertheless, even mats of this type cannot counteract the wind suction forces which arise on the upper side, since the thick, feltlike underlay functions like an almost impermeable membrane, which can be sucked up by the wind suction forces.

It has already been proposed that the wind suction forces be counteracted by the bodies of vegetation being provided with a scattered layer of gravel and thereby stabilised. This gravel burden for securing the position of the bodies of vegetation, however, increases the load burden on the roof to an undesirable degree, which should be kept as low as possible. Hitherto the increase in the roof loading by scattering gravel to secure the position of such bodies of vegetation was the only feasible method, since it was always taken as the basic principle that a body of vegetation is secure in its position if the resultant wind load, which exerts a raising effect, is smaller than the surface weight of the vegetation mats. Accordingly, with higher wind loads, the surface weight of the vegetation mats was increased. Hitherto no other procedure was possible, since, because of the high flow resistance when wind flows through the bodies of vegetation, the surface permeability is comparatively low.

The inventor has therefore taken as the problem the creating of a body of vegetation of the type referred to in the preamble, which, while maintaining low surface weight and

retaining the functions of such bodies of vegetation, is also secure in its position, i.e. insensitive to wind suction even at great roof heights.

This problem is resolved by a striplike body of vegetation in accordance with the preamble to Patent Claim 1, which presents the features of the characterisation part of Patent Claim 1.

According to the invention, a striplike body of vegetation for covering roofs with thin layers of vegetation is characterised in that at least the underlay is markedly improved with regard to wind permeability by the application of holes.

In a surprisingly simple manner, the effect is achieved with the holes that no surfaces are offered any longer to the wind suction, since, as a result of the holes, the otherwise closed underside is interrupted or opened, so that an immediate equalization of pressure occurs between top side and underside. This, then, simulates an effect which is otherwise only found with conventional heavy substrate formats, since in that case the substrate particles cause a large number of pores or openings to be present, as a result of which such structures behave in a neutral manner towards wind suction. If the underlay is now provided with holes, the body of vegetation as a whole no longer provides any resistance surface to the wind, and therefore there is no longer any raising of the body of vegetation.

In experimental trials it has been found, with measurements based on DIN 1055 Part 4, that with different wind dynamic pressure values at the altitude ranges from 0 m to 8 m and 8 m to 20 m, with a dynamic pressure q , in a range from 0.5 to 0.8 kN/m², bodies of vegetation provided with holes were secure in their position which featured a weight of less than 40 kg/m².

A further advantageous effect which can be specifically achieved by the holes is that the draining effect of the underlay can be improved by the holes, without the water storage capacity of the underlay being significantly reduced. The underlay is intended not only to be able to store water, in particular in dry periods, but should also be in a position to allow surplus water to run off, with a corresponding gradient, since otherwise the gas exchange of the roots of the plants could become critical. As a result of the holes the air content of the underlay is also improved, and better rooting of the plants in the layer structure beneath the underlay is achieved.

In advantageous embodiments of the invention, provision can be made for the underlay to feature a weight from 30 to 3,500 g/m², for the bodies of vegetation to be provided with 50 to 1,500 holes per square metre, whereby the holes feature a diameter from 2 to 20 mm, and for the number of holes to be selected as a function of the roof height. With known wind loadings, the permeability value can be calculated.

In practical embodiments of the invention, provision can be made for the structural matting to be a looped mat or a fibre mat, in particular a fibre mat made of coconut fibres, and for the underlay to be a dense needle non-woven material, a polyester non-woven, a polypropylene non-woven, a dense cotton non-woven, or a rock wool mat.

Provision may further be made for reinforcement to be arranged between the structural matting and underlay, to accommodate the tensile forces. Such reinforcement, such as lattice mesh, for example, thin but stable polyester non-wovens, and other feasible materials, serve to accommodate the tensile forces incurred when the body of vegetation is laid on a roof with a pitch of greater than 10°, which neither the structural matting nor the underlay are in a

position to do.

In a further practical embodiment, provision is made for the structural matting to be arranged on the underlay in such a way that a first side edge area of the structural matting projects over the first side edge of the underlay, that an opposed second side edge area of the underlay projects beneath a second side edge of the structural matting, so that structural matting and underlay of adjacent bodies of vegetation overlap one another in each case, and that the mutually-overlapping areas in the cultivated state of the bodies of vegetation are connected to one another as a consequence of the root penetration activity of the plants.

In this situation, the advantages of the body of vegetation according to the invention are combined in an advantageous manner with those of a body of vegetation known from DE 197 40 682 A1, with the result that a body of vegetation designed in this manner is not only positionally secure, but is also insensitive to dry shrinkage.

With a process for the manufacture of a body of vegetation according to the invention for providing vegetation on roofs in thin strips, in a first step the body of vegetation is first unrolled flat on a film which is secure against root penetration; in a second step, the body of vegetation is filled with substrate and plant material capable of germination, and looked after in gardening fashion; in a third step, the holes are provided by mechanical means through the body of vegetation into the underlay; and in a fourth step the body of vegetation rolled up and conveyed to the roof.

Advantageous with this process for the manufacture of the vegetation carrier according to the invention is that the holes are applied simply, rapidly, and economically in the bodies of vegetation lying on the site. In this situation,

the tensile reinforcement arranged if necessary between the structural matting and the underlay is perforated together with them.

In view of the fact that such bodies of vegetation are as a rule harvested by mechanical means, it is possible, if required, for the perforation to be carried out at the same time as the unrolling of the bodies of vegetation.

As an alternative, the process can be carried out with the third stage being left out, if a body of vegetation is used of which the underlay has already been provided with holes prior to its being laid on the film.

Further advantages and embodiments of the invention are described on the basis of an embodiment in the drawing, as well as in the description on the basis of an embodiment, and described in greater detail in the Patent Claims.

The drawing shows an embodiment of a body of vegetation 10 according to the invention, in a longitudinal section. The body of vegetation 10 corresponds largely to a body of vegetation known from DE 197 40 682 A1, and features a structural matting 12, which is arranged above an underlay 14. In the embodiment shown, the structural matting 12 is represented as a looped mat 16 made of polyamide looped fabric, which is filled with substrate 32 and with plants 34. The substrate 32 in this situation is a substrate suitable for extensive roof vegetation coverage.

The underlay 14 in the embodiment shown is a dense cotton non-woven 30, which features a high water storage capacity. Arranged between underlay 14 and structural matting 12 is a polyester non-woven 28, which serves to accommodate tensile forces. Instead of the polyester non-woven 28, it is also possible for a PE lattice fabric or similar material to be used. The underside 26 of the polyester non-woven can be

adhesively bonded, quilted, or connected in some other suitable manner to the underlay 14; and the polyester non-woven can be connected accordingly to the structural matting 12.

According to a matting known from DE 197 40 682 A1, the body of vegetation 10 features a first side edge area, not shown in the drawing, a first side edge, likewise not shown, a second side edge area 22, and a second side edge 24. These overlapping and underlapping areas serve to merge together two vegetation carriers 10, whereby, as a result of the rooting activity of the plants, these two overlapping vegetation carriers 10 are connected to one another.

The underlay 14, formed as a cotton non-woven 30, and the polyester non-woven 28, are provided with holes 18, 20. The holes 18, 20 are introduced into the underlay 14 and into the polyester non-woven 28 respectively by mechanical means, by what are referred to as "dibbers", by means of agricultural equipment during the horticultural care of the bodies of vegetation.

The effect of the holes 18, 20 is that the wind cannot attack the bodies of vegetation 10 over a flat surface area; namely, the sealing film which is, as a rule, arranged beneath the body of vegetation 10 on a roof is permanently secured to the roof, so that this film cannot be lifted by the wind suction. Accordingly, an underpressure finds no surface to attack; the body of vegetation 10 is secure in its position thanks to the holes 18, 20.

CLAIMS

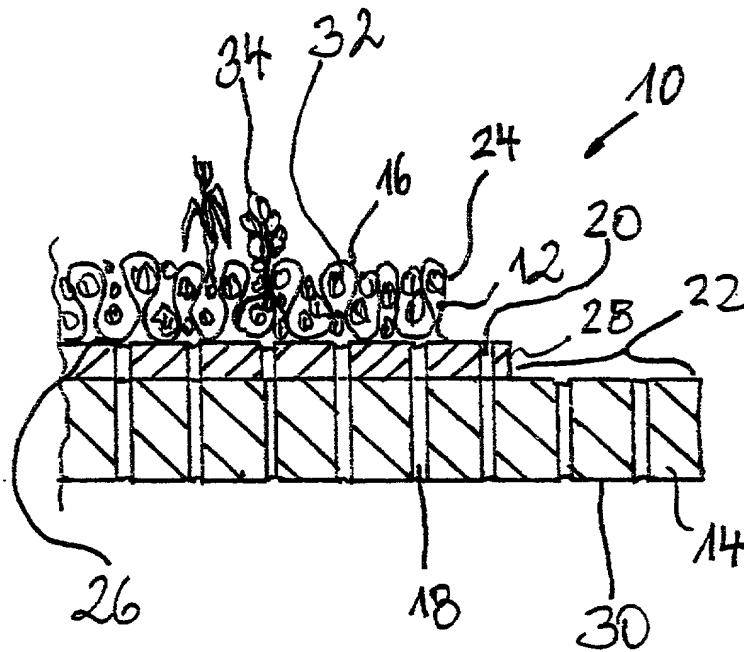
1. A Striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation, with a structural matting (12), which is arranged on at least one underlay (14), whereby the structural matting is capable of being filled with a substrate (32) and plant material capable of germination, in particular with seeds, sprouts, spores or sprout pieces, and whereby the underlay (14) is a felt-like non-woven with low wind permeability and high water storage capacity, characterised in that at least the underlay (14) is rendered permeable to the wind by the application of holes (18; 20).
2. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) features a weight from 30 to 3,500 g/m².
3. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the body of vegetation (10) is provided with 50 to 1,500 holes per square metre, whereby the holes (18; 20) in each case feature a diameter of 2 to 20 mm.
4. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the number of holes (18; 20) is selected as a function of the roof height.
5. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a looped mat (16).
6. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a fibre mat, in particular a fibre mat

made of coconut fibres.

7. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense needle non-woven.
8. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polyester non-woven.
9. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polypropylene non-woven.
10. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense cotton non-woven (30).
11. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a rock wool mat.
12. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 11, characterised in that arranged between the structural matting (12) and the underlay (14) is reinforcing (28) to accommodate tensile forces.
13. The striplike body of vegetation according to one of Claims 1 to 12, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is arranged on the underlay (14) in such a way that a first side edge area of the structural matting (12) projects over a first side edge of the underlay (14), that a second side edge area (22) of the underlay (14) located opposite projects beneath a second side edge (24) of the structural matting (12), so that the structural matting (12) and underlay (14) of adjacent bodies of vegetation overlap into one

another in each case, and that the overlapping areas are combined with one another in the cultivated state of the bodies of vegetation as a consequence of the inter-rooting activity of the plants (34).

14. A process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with one of Claims 1 to 13, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10) is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, in a third step the holes (18; 20) are applied by machine through the body of vegetation (10) into the underlay (14), and in a fourth step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.
15. The process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with one of Claims 1 to 13, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10), of which the underlay (14) has already been provided with holes (18;20), is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, and in a third step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

STRIPLIKE BODY OF VEGETATION FOR COVERING ROOFS WITH THIN LAYERS OF VEGETATION

the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. _____

on _____,

and was amended

on _____ (if applicable).

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/DE00/01386

on 28 APRIL 2000,

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate "PCT")	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
GERMANY	199 34 203.2	21 JULY 1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
BEHRENS-9 PCT

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclose in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR
BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:

U.S. APPLICATIONS			STATUS (Check One)		
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE		PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.					
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS ASSIGNED (if any)			

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration numbers):

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201

DATE